

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): In a machine vision system having a plurality of vision processors (VPs) and at least one user interface (UI), a method for instructing a UI in communication with a first VP to establish communication with a second VP, the method comprising:

providing each a first VP with a link function, the link function being a control function executable by the first VP, and being for establishing communication between a second VP and a the at least one UI, the communication enabling a continually updated image display on the at least one UI representing a current state of the second VP;

activating executing the link function so as to issue instructions from the first VP to the UI to establish communication with another the second VP.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein activating the link function includes:

activating a VP control function having a plurality of parameters,
including at least an identifier of the second VP.

3. (currently amended): The method of claim 2~~1~~, wherein activating a ~~VP control~~ executing the link function includes:

clicking on a graphical representation of the ~~VP control~~ link function displayed by the UI.

4. (currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the graphical representation of the ~~VP control~~ link function is an underlined text string displayed by a the UI.

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5. (currently amended): The method of claim 2 1, wherein activating a ~~VP control~~ instructions from the first VP to the UI includes:

providing an activation signal to the VP control a plurality of parameters, including at least an identifier of the second VP, and at least one of a description of a view of the second VP, and a cursor position of the second VP.

6. (currently amended): The method of claim 5~~1~~, wherein ~~the activation signal~~ executing the link function is initiated by a user.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 6, wherein ~~the activation signal~~ executing the link function is initiated by a user via the at least one UI.

8. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one UI includes a check box.

9. (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein the at least one UI includes a radio button.

10. (currently amended): The method of claim 5 1, wherein executing the link function ~~the activation signal~~ is initiated by an external event.

11. (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the external event is an industrial process event.

12. (currently amended): The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~activation signal~~ ~~is initiated by~~ external event is a change in the state of a sensor.

13. (currently amended): The method of claim 40 1, wherein ~~the activation signal~~ executing the link function is initiated by a programmatic decision.

14. (currently amended): The method of claim 40 1, wherein ~~the activation signal~~ executing the link function is initiated by a human decision.

15. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein ~~activating~~
executing the link function includes:

including the link function in a function execution sequence of the VP.

16. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the link function also
terminates communication with a the first VP in addition to establishing
communication with a the second VP.

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17. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the link function
enables local dynamic display of ~~a remote~~ images provided by a camera of the
second VP on the at least one UI.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein upon activation of the
link function, a user is enabled to configure the second VP using the at least one
UI.

20. (currently amended): In a machine vision system having a plurality of vision processors (VPs) and at least one user interface (UI), a method for instructing a UI in communication with a first VP to establish communication with a second VP, the method comprising:

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providing a graphical representation, included in the at least one UI, the graphical representation being adapted to ~~initiate an activation signal that~~ causes respond to user action so as to cause the first VP to instruct the at least one UI to establish communication with the second VP, the communication enabling a continually updated image display on the at least on UI representing a current state of the second VP; and enabling a user to configure the second VP using the UI.

21. (original): The machine vision system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of VPs and the at least one UI are interconnected via a network.

22. (original): The machine vision system of claim 21, wherein the network supports a TCP/IP network protocol.

23. (currently amended): The machine vision system of claim 20, wherein the ~~graphical representation is adapted to be responsive to~~ user action includes selecting the graphical representation.

24. (currently amended): The machine vision system of claim 23 20, wherein the user action is a mouse click upon the graphical representation.

25. (original): The machine vision system of claim 20, wherein the graphical representation is an underlined text string.

A³ / 26. (currently amended): A user interface (UI) for a machine vision system having a plurality of vision processors (VPs) including a first VP and a second VP, the user interface comprising:

a spread sheet; and

a graphical representation, the graphical representation being incorporated in the spreadsheet, the graphical representation being adapted to respond to user action so as to cause ~~the~~ a first VP to instruct the UI to establish communication with a second VP of the plurality of VPs, the communication enabling a continually updated image display on the UI representing a current state of the second VP.

27. (currently amended): The user interface (UI) of claim 26, wherein the graphical representation is further adapted to respond to user action so as to cause the UI to terminate communication with a the first VP of the plurality of VPs.

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28. (original): The user interface (UI) of claim 26, wherein the graphical representation is an underlined text string.

29. (original): The user interface (UI) of claim 26, wherein the graphical representation is an iconic representation.

✓ 30. (currently amended): A machine vision system comprising:

a plurality of vision processors (VPs);

at least one user interface (UI) in communication with a first VP of the plurality of VPs, the UI including:

a graphical representation visible to a user, the graphical representation being adapted to respond to user action so as to cause the first VP to instruct the UI to establish communication with a second VP of the plurality of VPs, the communication enabling a continually updated image display on the UI representing a current state of the second VP.

31. (original): The machine vision system of claim 30, wherein the plurality of VPs and the at least one UI are interconnected via a network.

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32. (original): The machine vision system of claim 31, wherein the network supports a TCP/IP network protocol.

33. (original): The machine vision system of claim 30, wherein user action is a mouse click upon the graphical representation.

34. (original): The machine vision system of claim 30, wherein the graphical representation is an underlined text string.
